

March 16, 1999

TO: Members of the MAG Transportation Review Committee

FROM: Gary Brown, Chairman, Tempe

SUBJECT: MEETING NOTIFICATION AND TRANSMITTAL OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

Tuesday, March 23, 1999 - 10:00 a.m.
MAG Office, Suite 200, Saguaro Room
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix

The next meeting of the MAG Transportation Review Committee (TRC) will be held at the time and place noted above. Please park in the garage under the building. Bring your ticket to the meeting as parking will be validated. Bicycles can be locked in the rack at the entrance to the parking garage. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Terry Johnson or John Farry at 254-6300.

Please be advised that under procedures adopted by the MAG Regional Council on June 26, 1996, all MAG committees need to have a quorum in order to conduct business. A quorum is a simple majority of the membership or nine people for the MAG TRC. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please make arrangements for a proxy from your jurisdiction to represent you.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

COMMITTEE ACTION REQUESTED

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| <p>1. <u>Call to Order</u></p> <p>2. <u>Approval of Minutes of February 9, 1999 and February 23, 1999</u></p> <p>3. <u>Call to the Audience</u></p> | <p>2. Approve minutes of February 9, 1999 and February 23, 1999</p> <p>3. For information.</p> |
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An opportunity will be provided to members of the public to address the Committee. Citizens will be requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments.

4. Transportation Manager's Report

Recent transportation planning activities and upcoming agenda items for the MAG Management Committee will be reviewed by the Transportation Manager.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Committee members can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda. Consent items are marked with an asterisk.

4. For information and discussion.

5. For information, discussion and possible action to approve the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

*6. Enhancement Projects Approved by ADOT Board

The State is required to reserve 10 percent of the Surface Transportation Program funds for Transportation Enhancement projects. ADOT usually allocates 50 percent of those funds to projects that are not part of the State Highway System. The MAG Enhancement Fund Working Group annually prioritizes the projects submitted within our region. A list of Enhancement Funded projects approved by the State Transportation Board on February 19, 1999 are included in Attachment A.

6. For information.

*7. Recommendations to the Arizona Department of Transportation for the FTA Elderly & Persons with Disabilities Program

On March 1, 1999, the MAG FTA Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Transportation Ad Hoc Committee ranked applications for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 funding. FTA provides these funds

7. For information.

to the Arizona Department of Transportation for capital assistance to agencies and public bodies that provide transportation services for people who are elderly and for people who have a disability. This year, 20 applications for capital assistance awards were received and considered by the Committee. The ranking provided by MAG is considered by ADOT in determining which applicants are to be awarded. The Management Committee concurred with the recommendation of the MAG Committee and the Regional Council is scheduled to act on this recommendation on March 24, 1999. See attached lists of ranked priorities included as Attachment B.

*8. Need for Federally-Funded Bicycle Projects to be Principally for Transportation Purposes

Recent correspondence from FHWA advised that regulations require that "Federal Transportation Funds when used for bicycle projects will be principally for transportation rather than recreational uses" (see Attachment C). Any member agencies with a CMAQ funded bicycle project which is primarily for recreational purpose is requested to advise MAG staff for further consideration of the project.

8. For information.

ITEMS TO BE HEARD

9. Report on the MAG Freeway Program

MAG Freeway Program Management will address issues related to the Freeway Life Cycle Program. A copy of the Annual Report on the MAG Freeway Program is included as Attachment D.

9. For information and discussion.

10. I-10 Corridor Profile Study: Phoenix to Tucson

ADOT is undertaking a corridor study of I-10 between Phoenix and Tucson. ADOT staff will be available to provide a briefing on this project.

11. MAG Congestion Study

MAG has undertaken a detailed study of congestion in the region. Staff will discuss preliminary results. Maps on freeway congestion are included as Attachment E.

12A. FY 1999 Close Out for MAG Federal Funds

A preliminary close out for FY 1999 MAG federal funds was recommended by the TRC in February. Additional federal funds may be forthcoming because of higher than anticipated revenue collections and because of redistributed obligation authority (OA). The current status of the FY 1999 program is detailed in Attachment F. Please note that this closeout table includes an estimated \$1.0 million in redistribution OA.

12B. Maricopa County Work Links Program

Maricopa County Human Services Department Special Transportation Services Program is requesting MAG Federal funds for its Work Links Transportation Brokerage Service. The program is requesting funding of \$750,000 annually for a three-year demonstration project using potential uncommitted MAG federal funds. The purpose of the Work Links project is to promote independence and self-sufficiency for welfare-to-work and low-income workers by providing flexible, cost-effective and accessible transportation options 24-hours per day and 7 days per week. The lack of

10. For information, discussion and possible action.

11. For information, discussion, and possible action.

12A. For information, discussion and possible action.

12B. For information, discussion and possible recommendation to amend the FY 1999 MAG federally-funded program to include the Maricopa County Work Links Program for \$750,000 subject to the availability of funding, and to recommend that this project be a priority for two additional years (at \$750,000 per year) subject to the availability of funding.

transportation is one of the major barriers for these individuals to access child care, training and employment opportunities because they are often placed in service types of jobs which extend into the evening and on weekends when there is no transit service. Without transportation, these individuals are unable to meet federal and state welfare reform requirements and jeopardize their cash assistance.

As current MAG federal funds are programmed this project would depend on potential additional funds or delays to programmed projects. Please see Attachment G for additional information.

12C. MAG Federal Funding Caps

In May 1995, the Regional Council adopted guidelines for the closeout of the fiscal year for the MAG Federally-funded Program. A copy of these guidelines is included as Attachment H. The second guideline on cost increases specifies that "the sponsoring agent is responsible for any cost increases." This policy was the result of previous priorities in which projected costs often increased substantially from initial programming to final obligation. The fourth guideline on closeout priorities states that "the second priority is to increase the federal share of projects being obligated in the first year of the program." To date MAG has obligated MAG federal funds up to 94.3 percent of the cost of the project as **first** listed in the TIP. Members of the TRC have requested that the process of capping projects be reviewed.

13. Update of the MAG Regional Aviation System Plan

In April 1998, MAG submitted an application to the Federal Aviation Administration to update its Regional

12C. For information, discussion and possible action

13. For information and discussion.

Aviation System Plan. The objective of the MAG RASP is to meet the future air transportation needs of the region in a safe and efficient manner. The last update was adopted by the MAG Regional Council in 1993 and changing conditions has necessitated an update of that Plan.

The Update was not funded in FY 1998 because of a lack of available federal funds and it is anticipated that it will be funded this fiscal year. On April 15, 1999 the MAG Regional Aviation System Plan Policy Committee will meet to review the role of MAG in aviation planning, past aviation system planning efforts and the process for initiating work on the Update. A draft request for proposals will be developed and used to recommend a consultant to undertake the project. A status report will be presented. Please see Attachment I which includes a MAG RASP Policy Committee membership list, a summary of the grant application and a letter from the Chairman of the Regional Council urging funding of the application

14. Legislative Report

The Arizona State Legislative session began in January 1999. TRC members will be apprized of issues related to transportation facilities and funding that are scheduled for consideration by the Legislature.

15. Next Meeting Dates

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 27, 1999 at 10:00 a.m. in the MAG Office, Saguaro Room.

14. For information and discussion.

15. For information.